

PLANNING AHEAD

Notes for the Planning and Policy Community

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Vacancy Announcements

Headquarters

The Planning and Policy Division in Civil Works has established two new positions: a GS-15 Chief Environmental Planner and a GS-15 Chief Economist and is now recruiting to fill them. The announcements are on the Army personnel web site at <http://www.cpol.army.mil/> and on the OPM web site at <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>. The closing date for both is 1 May 2003.

Job Title: Chief Economist (Army vacancy # NCFL03102377; OPM vacancy # FL-DEU-03-3429, GS-15)

Duties: Serves as chief policy and technical advisor and consultant for economic analysis of water resources projects. Serves as Civil Works chief economic expert for the following: urban and agricultural flood damage reduction, water supply and conservation, hydropower and energy, inland and deep draft navigation, hurricane and storm damage reduction, environmental restoration, recreation, and other water resources programs. Provides guidance for formulating new or modified planning and economic evaluation procedures. Directs development of implementation guidance for economic analysis required by new legislation. Supports research and development for new or adopted existing methodologies and technology transfer through training. The position requires interaction and

coordination with the staff of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA/CW) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Job Title: Chief Environmental Planner (Army vacancy # NCFL03102389; OPM vacancy # FL-DEU-03-3428, GS-15)

Duties: Serves as chief policy and technical advisor and consultant for environmental analysis and oversight of water resources projects. Serves as Civil Works chief environmental expert, overseeing “Office of Environmental Policy” responsibilities as described in Section 924 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (WRDA 86). As described in Sec. 924, these duties include being the primary source of guidance for the formulation, coordination, and implementation of all matters concerning environmental quality and policy as they relate to the water resources program of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Directorate of Civil Works. The Chief Environmental Planner shall, among other duties, provide key guidance and develop, as well as monitor compliance with, guidelines for the consideration of environmental quality in formulation and planning of water resources projects; the preparation and coordination of environmental impact statements for such projects; and the coordination with Federal, State, and local agencies of environmental aspects of such projects and regulatory responsibilities. Specifically, provides guidance for developing new or modified planning and environmental evaluation procedures. Directs development of implementation guidance for environmental analysis required by new legislation. Supports research and development for new or adopted existing methodologies and technology transfer through training. The position requires interaction and coordination with the staff of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA/CW) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Direct inquiries for job information to Harry E. Kitch, Chief, Guidance Development Branch (CECW-PG), Planning and Policy Division, Directorate of Civil Works, US Army Corps of Engineers, 441 G Street, NW (3F93), Washington, DC, Phone 202-761-4574, Fax 202-761-0464, email address Harry.E.Kitch@usace.army.mil.

North Atlantic Division

The North Atlantic Division is currently submitting the recruitment package for Chief, Planning and Policy Division (Interdisciplinary GS-15), North Atlantic Division. Sam Tosi has announced his retirement for the end of calendar year 2003. The plan is to select and bring his replacement on board this summer, allowing several months of transition. We request that you give this your widest dissemination, and encourage your qualified GS-14 candidates to apply. North Atlantic Division has one of the most robust and challenging Civil Works programs in the Corps with 17,000 miles of Atlantic Shoreline, 5 of the nations top 10 ports, including the NY Harbor which is one of the Administration's highest priority Civil Works projects, a healthy flood control program and environmental restoration challenges that span diverse ecosystems from the Chesapeake Bay to the NY/NJ Harbor to Cape Cod and beyond. Our CONUS Districts, Norfolk, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and New England are all healthy and viable business units. Europe District is also in our footprint which adds to the excitement of NAD. Despite rumors to the contrary, living in the New York area can be an extremely fulfilling experience, with unique opportunities to enjoy the northeastern USA, one of our most beautiful, exciting and historical regions in the country. The recruitment package will authorize Relocation Services, and a relocation bonus of up to 25% of salary may also be authorized. For questions pertaining to this position, call Tom Waters (718-765-7129) or Sam Tosi (718-765-7070).

Interim Economics and Environmental Chiefs Appointed

Jim Johnson – CECW-P

Until permanent selections are made for the Chief Environmental Planner and Chief Economist positions (see Vacancy Announcements above) I am appointing two senior planning staffers to wear “dual hats.” Mr. Harry Shouldy will assume the Chief Economist duties and Mr. Forester Einarsen the Chief Environmental Planner duties. In addition, I am appointing Mr. Harry Kitch, Chief of Guidance Development Branch, as Chief Plan Formulator on a permanent basis. All appointments were effective as of 7 April 2003.

Tribal Liaison Position in Civil Works

Effective 14 April, 2003 the Chief of Engineers will transfer Dr. Georgeanne Reynolds to the newly established position of Tribal Liaison in the Directorate of Civil Works. Dr. Reynolds will ensure that there is a common and consistent strategy throughout the Corps of Engineers for communicating with, and listening to, our Tribal Nation partners.

This position ensures that an identifiable focal point exists at the Washington D.C. headquarters level to represent the Corps on interagency committees, task forces, and work groups established to develop major national interagency programs for Native-Americans, Alaska Natives and Hawaiian Natives or to resolve specific problems concerning the interrelationships of the Civil Works program and those of other Federal agencies. In addition, she will provide needed assistance in conducting and coordinating broad policy studies to determine the scope of Corps responsibility and interest in water resources problems and to provide advice and assistance to field offices on complex policy issues.

Dr. Reynolds has a B.A. and M.A. in Anthropology from George Washington University and a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the State University of New York at Binghamton. She was the Alaska District’s archeologist from 1984 through 1999 and most recently has served in the HQUSACE Office of Congressional Affairs.

ASFPM – Corps Relationships

Rennie Sherman – CECW-PD

The Association of State Floodplain Managers is an organization of professionals involved in floodplain management, flood hazard mitigation, the National Flood Insurance Program, and flood preparedness, warning and recovery. The ASFPM is a respected voice in floodplain management practice and policy in the United States. The ASFPM supports comprehensive nonstructural and structural management of the nation's floodplains and related water resources. The ASFPM believes that through coordinated, well-informed efforts, the public and private sectors can:

- reduce loss of human life and property damage resulting from flooding
- preserve the natural and cultural values of floodplains, and
- avoid actions that exacerbate flooding.

To help reach these goals, the ASFPM fosters communication among those responsible for flood hazard activities, provides technical advice to governments and other entities about proposed actions or

policies that will affect flood hazards, and encourages flood hazard research, education and training. One initiative undertaken by the ASFPM is the No-Adverse-Impact initiative, which is an attempt to educate state and local governments on sound floodplain management practices and encourage the consideration of potential adverse impacts on a community-wide or watershed basis. According to the ASFPM, a no-adverse-impact floodplain is one in which *the action of one property owner or community does not adversely affect the flood risks for other properties or communities as measured by increased flood stages, increased flood velocity, increased flows, or the increased potential for erosion and sedimentation, unless the impact is mitigated as provided for in a community or watershed based plan.*

The Corps has enjoyed an excellent working relationship with the ASFPM over the past 25 years. The goals and mission of the ASFPM, including the NAI initiative, complement the Corps emphasis on balanced economic and environmental flood damage reduction planning. If you wish to learn more about the ASFPM, visit their website at www.floods.org, or consider attending their annual conference in St. Louis, 12-15 May 2003. Details of the conference can be found on the ASFPM website.


New OMB-Approved Surveys Are Available on IWR Website

Stuart Davis – CEIWR-MD

Recently approved planning and recreation management public surveys are now available on the IWR website at <http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/iwr/omb/ombhomea.HTM>.

The website includes OMB terms of clearance along with the transmittal letter issued by Fred Caver CECW-ZB on 26 February 2003. The transmittal letter gives the protocol for compliance with OMB regulation under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Included on the website are several new surveys related to customer satisfaction, environmental quality, and recreation management. As always, the questionnaire wording is flexible and questions are interchangeable between surveys as long as there is no change in type of information being sought, but all questions used should be necessary to the Corps missions and not provide an undue burden on the public. Minor wording changes may occur to the surveys in the next few weeks, as OMB may still require some modifications, so be sure that you are using the most up-to-date version of the questionnaires. The transmittal letter explains the ten-day approval process that is still required for each survey effort.

[Stuart Davis](#), 703/428-7086. 


Nonstructural News

National Nonstructural/Flood Proofing Committee

New name, added focus. The Corps of Engineers National Flood Proofing Committee has changed its name to better reflect its expanded focus on all nonstructural flood damage reduction measures. The NFPC has been in existence for some time with a primary focus on flood proofing. Within the last two years the NFPC has broadened its mission to include the total spectrum of nonstructural flood damage reduction measures which, of course, includes flood proofing. With this broadened mission, the NFPC is providing direct support and assistance to Corps Districts that are interested in general nonstructural flood damage reduction planning and using nonstructural alternatives

to create opportunities for ecosystem restoration in the spirit of environmental sustainability and the environmental operating principles. The new name, the Corps of Engineers **National Nonstructural/Flood Proofing Committee** was selected to tie its historical mission of flood proofing with the new focus on all nonstructural measures. Of course, you can still refer to us using the same acronym, the **NFPC**!

In the next edition of *Planning Ahead*, look for examples of activities in which the NFPC has been or is involved.

Along those lines, the NFPC is very interested in learning what Districts are doing in the area of nonstructural flood damage reduction so that successes can be shared across the Corps. If you have studies or projects of this nature to share, please contact Mr. Larry Buss, Omaha District, NFPC Chairman, larry.s.buss@usace.army.mil, or Mr. Ken Zwickl at HQUSACE, Kenneth.j.zwickl@usace.army.mil. 

Bridge Back Home “in Its Dotage”

JoAnne Castagna – CENAN-PP-C

[Editor’s note. Nearly everyone has heard of and probably seen the Sears Roebuck houses that were from the teens to the forties sold from catalogues and delivered in pieces to owners’ homesites. But bridges, particularly wrought iron truss bridges, were for many years in the late 19th and early 20th centuries also sold from catalogues by Phoenixville Bridge, Keystone Bridge, King Bridge, and others. This story traces how one of those catalogue bridges found its way home after more than 100 years of service.]

The Doty Road Bridge has carried vehicles over New Jersey’s Ramapo River for over a century. Recently, the New York District found a home for the retired landmark in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania where it was originally constructed and where it will continue to serve the public.

The Doty Road Bridge, “Doty Bridge,” was named after the Doty family, early settlers to Oakland Borough in Bergen County, New Jersey. The single lane, 80-foot long bridge was constructed in 1891 and spanned the Ramapo River in an area traditionally called “The Ponds.”

Bergen County requested a bridge be constructed after winter floods swept away the bridge that stood before it. They purchased the Doty Road Bridge, a 5-panel, wrought iron, Pratt Pony Truss Bridge with Phoenix Columns, from the Phoenixville Bridge Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Phoenix Iron and Steel Company, located in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.



Bergen County literally found the bridge by thumbing through a catalogue. The Doty Road Bridge was a “catalogue bridge.” The Phoenixville Bridge Company sold hundreds of bridges, viaducts, and highway spans in the United States and Canada through their firm’s trade catalogue. Whole bridges were pre-fabricated by the company in an almost kit-like fashion. The customers ordered the parts they needed. The parts were shipped to local engineers who customized the designs for their particular location. All of the bridge panel sections were sent to the job site with all of the riveting work completed. The only thing that local engineers had to do was literally “pin” the bridge together.

Many of the bridges were constructed using the bridge company’s famous Phoenix Columns and truss designs, invented by the company. The Phoenix Column is hollow and circular and made up of four, six, or eight wrought-iron segments that are flanged and riveted together, thus forming a column. Phoenix Column truss bridges were widely used in the late 1800’s because the column facilitated the erection of tall structures eliminating the requirement for heavy, thick load-bearing walls and also because of it’s application to the construction of bridges, viaducts and elevated rail lines.

In 1983 the bridge was condemned because of its poor condition and a temporary Bailey Bridge was placed over the original structure to carry traffic. In 1989 the structure was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.


The Doty Road Bridge is located where the New York District’s Oakland Flood Control Project is currently under construction. Several years ago it was determined by project managers that the bridge would be an obstruction during floods and that it should be removed. The State of New Jersey Preservation Office stated that something needed to be done with the bridge in terms of mitigation because it is a cultural resource.

Lynn Rakos, a New York District Archeologist took the lead in finding a home for the bridge, particularly its trusses because the rest of the bridge was deteriorated. Rakos said, “Our goal was to provide it to a non-profit, at no charge and to make sure it would still be accessible to the public.”

Rakos marketed the trusses nationwide. She called historical societies, distributed fliers and marketing materials to state park managers and engineers, and placed an advertisement in *Preservation Magazine*. She received emails and calls from a wide range of individuals. “Engineering professors, interested in the bridge’s history, told me that they would like a piece of the truss and another man wanted to place it by a stream on his ranch in North Dakota,” said Rakos.

After several years of work on locating a home for the bridge, she received a call from the Phoenixville Area Economic Development Corporation (PAEDCO), a non-profit organization that is trying to bring economic life into Phoenixville, Pennsylvania. The New York District, after evaluating all of its offers decided to work with PAEDCO. PAEDCO, in cooperation with the county and state, purchased 27-acres in northern Phoenixville to create a park. The plans for the park include creating walking and biking trails along French Creek and a bridge will be constructed over the creek that will connect the park to the trails. The Doty Road Bridge trusses will be placed along side the bridge as a decorative element.


PAEDCO “purchased” the truss for a symbolic dollar. On a rainy, cold day on December 11, 2002 the bridge was disassembled and trucked from Oakland Borough, New Jersey to Phoenixville, Pennsylvania where it was crafted over a century ago.

“We sent the bridge home in its dotage,” said Rakos. She adds, “It is unique that bridges get moved. This doesn’t happen too often. With the enthusiasm of PAEDCO, I have confidence it will be a happy ending.” 

Bits and Pieces


[The Editor](#)

Eighteen Corps Civilians deployed Sunday March 30 from Savannah to the Middle East in order to provide humanitarian aid and to begin infrastructure reconstruction. Read about it on Savannah’s [WTOC TV](#) website.

Acey Ducey anyone? Forty thousand decks of playing cards are about to deploy to the Middle East from the USO center in Maryland. This is thanks to an ex Corps of Engineers serviceman in Sacramento, casinos he asked to donate the cards, and the Sacramento moving company that transported the cards to Maryland. Read about Mr Fraccola and his service [here](#) and the contents of a typical USO Care Package [here](#). 

Instructions for Contributors to Planning Ahead

This newsletter is designed to improve the communication among all the planners and those we work with throughout the Corps. We hope that future editions will have mostly information and perspective from those of you on the front lines in the districts. We hope that these notes become a forum for you to share your experiences to help all of us learn from each other. We can't afford to reinvent the wheel in each office. We welcome your thoughts, questions, success stories, and bitter lessons so that we can share them on these pages. The articles should be short (2-3 paragraphs) except in some cases where you just have to say more.

- Use MS WORD
- Use "normal" style
- Use Times New Roman font, 11 point
- All text should be left justified with start of each paragraph indented by one tab stop.
- Each article should have short title with only initial letter of each word capitalized
- Following each title should be author's name and organization
- Last line should be contact information – phone number or e-mail address 

Subscribing to Planning Ahead

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That single line of text should be: "subscribe ls-planningahead"

To obtain a 'help' file, send only the word 'help' in the text of the message (nothing in the subject line) and address it to majordomo@lst.usace.army.mil 

Submissions Deadline

The deadline for material for the next issue is **25 April 2003**.

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